



**St. James United Church**



Belong • Grow • Serve

330 Elizabeth Ave,  
St. John's, NL, A1B 1T9

### **Celebration of Worship: January 25, 2026**



The people of St. James United Church are eternal seekers who value diversity within our congregation, our city, and all of society. We affirm each person's uniqueness and believe that all persons deserve to be valued, treated with equity, and respected. We are all children of God, walking many paths of spirituality.

Further, we proudly and publicly declare our commitment to practice radical hospitality and strive in every way to provide a safe and supportive place for all persons to participate in the worship and work of our church.

Guided by the teachings of Jesus, we embrace all persons, regardless of creed, race, age, ability, economic status, cultural and ethnic background, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or any other difference that has led to marginalization or oppression.

In Loving Memory of  
**Harold Price**  
*(April 5, 1929 to January 21, 2017)*  
from Wife Lillian and Family

## **January 25, 2026, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Leading: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Amy Dalziel,  
Glenda Winsor, Jean Rose, Betty Pilgrim and Susan Pike  
Ushers: Brad Hollett, Wisdom Edionhon, Marilyn Adams  
and Jean Thompson

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*Please rise as you are able where there is an \* in the service.  
Print in **bold** indicates that the portion is read or sung by everyone.*

### **We Come to Worship**

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME; LAND AND KINSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*We share greetings in Innu-aimun, French and Bahasa.*

**SHARING OF PEACE:** *This sharing ends with instrumental music.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(based on materials prepared by the Armenian Apostolic Church for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026)*

May God's name be blessed forever, their name before the sun.

**All the nations of the earth will be blessed through God.**

Blessed be God, worker of wonders, God's name blessed always.

**The whole world will be filled with their glory. Amen! Amen!**

Glory to God, Abba, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

**Now and always, unto the ages of ages. Amen.**

Let us beseech God who with mercy raises us to life.

**Glory to God, now and always, unto the ages of ages. Amen.**

**HYMN OF LIGHT:** "O Splendour of God's Glory Bright" (VU 413)

**OPENING PRAYER** *(based on materials for the Week of Prayer)*

Everlasting God, Eternal God,

**you dawned as light in this world**

**and illumined us from the darkness of sin.**

Infinite God, you came into our finite existence,

**abundantly pouring out the Spirit's gifts on your creatures. Now and for all eternity you are extolled, most great God, Abba, Christ and Holy Spirit, now and always, unto the ages of ages. Amen.**

**We Celebrate Our Welcome**

**PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATE FOR BAPTISM**

*We welcome Martin & Michelle Davis as they present Richard for baptism.*

**LIGHTING OF BAPTISMAL CANDLE AND PROMISES**

**\* CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT**

Do you as a faith community, promise to love and support this child and his family as together we extend Christ's love in the world?

**We do with God's help.**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & ACT OF BAPTISM**

**LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRESENTATION OF CANDLE,  
BLESSING OF PARENTS AND FAMILY**

**WELCOME BY THE CONGREGATION**

... children of God, Mother and Father of us all. **As siblings in Christ, we welcome you Richard into this family in faith.**

*The congregation may applaud as a sign of welcome.*

**\* HYMN:** "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" (*Voices United 444*)

**We Share in Love**

**OUR LIFE AND WORK:** *We share about upcoming events and other items of interest to the congregation and to the wider community.*

## OFFERTORY:



*There are many ways to give to St. James. You can place an offering in the plate, scan the QR code on the left, contribute via PAR, website ([www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)), e-transfer (email [treasurer@stjamesuc.org](mailto:treasurer@stjamesuc.org)), mail to the church office or drop in our secure mailbox. In whatever way you choose to give, the community is grateful. "Grateful" (MV 182) will be sung during the offering.*

**\* HYMN:** "When Heaven's Bright with Mystery" (VU 93, v. 4)  
**When heaven's bright with mystery and stars still lead an unknown way,  
when love still lights a gentle path where courts  
of power can hold no sway, there with the Magi, let us kneel,  
our gifts to share, God's world to heal.**

## PRAYER OF GRATITUDE AND GRACE

### We Listen and Respond

## LEARNING TOGETHER

*We explore themes of the day in a manner that is accessible to all ages.*

**\* HYMN:** "Take, O Take me As I Am" (More Voices 85)

**READINGS:** *At the end of each reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*  
Ephesians 4:1-13 and Matthew 4:12-23 (from the Glasgow Bible)

**\*HYMN:** "Bathe Me in Your Light" (More Voices 82)

## REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

**SOLO:** "In Christ Alone" (Keith Getty and Stuart Townend)

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PRAYER OF JESUS** (VU p. 918)

### We Leave to Serve

**\* HYMN:** "Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore" (VU 563)

## **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

As we go forth from here:

**may we be strong in spirit, courageous in will,  
and gentle of heart.**

Each day may our actions:

**be rooted in wisdom, nurtured by hope and open to love.**

May we meet others as we would wish to be met:

**with a heart of compassion, in a spirit of healing  
and grounded in joy.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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### **St. James United Church**

Chair of the Church Board:	Pamela Norman
Minister:	Rev. James Ravenscroft
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Co-Directors of Music:	Amy Dalziel & Bob Rose
Office Administrator	Stephanie Harnum
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor

Office: 722-1881, x200; Email: [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org);  
Emergency Cellphone: 351-0983; Website: [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)

## **Life and Work – January 25, 2026:**

**We offer our sincere condolences to** the family of Keith Halfyard who passed away on January 18, 2026. Keith was a member of St. James United Church and in earlier years, was a member of the Finance Committee. Arrangements have been entrusted to Carnell's Funeral Home. A Celebration of Keith's life will be held at a later date.

**We gratefully acknowledge a donation of a Steinway chancel piano donated from Olga Broomfield-Richards:**

\* In loving memory of husband Johnathan Richards. Johnathan played the Cello and was a member of the choir for many years.

**We accept the following donation to the Cemetery Fund:**

\*In loving memory of Mother Mildred Blackwood, Sister Ida Dowden, Brother Walter Blackwood Jr. from Lorna Jamieson.

**2026 Envelopes:** If you have not already received your 2026 envelopes, they are ready at the church for pick-up. Please drop by Tuesday to Friday from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm and pick them up or ask a member of the congregation to pick them up for you.

**Meditation for Busy People, each Wednesday, 5:45-6:30 pm:** Who doesn't need a moment of peace and centered calm in the midst of our busy world. Come each week for a time of quiet meditation in the Christian tradition. Don't worry if you have never practiced Christian meditation. Rev. James will teach you how.

**After Worship Bible Study:** Rev. James will lead a Bible study each Sunday after the coffee time. This will be a chance to explore the lectionary readings in more detail. Gather in the library 30 minutes after worship for an hour-long study.

**Wild Light Spiritual Oasis:** Please note the date change to February 1, 2026 at 3:00pm. Join us for a walk to connect to our inner creativity. We will meet at the shelter adjacent to the Fluvarium parking lot.

**From "Our Closet To Yours" Pop Up Boutique event takes place here at the church on Saturday, January 31st from 11 am to 3 pm. \$2 Admission**

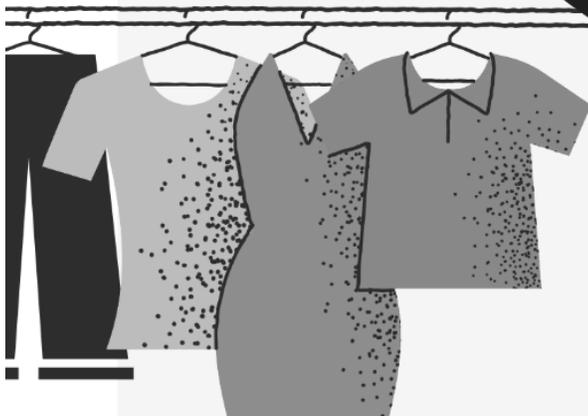
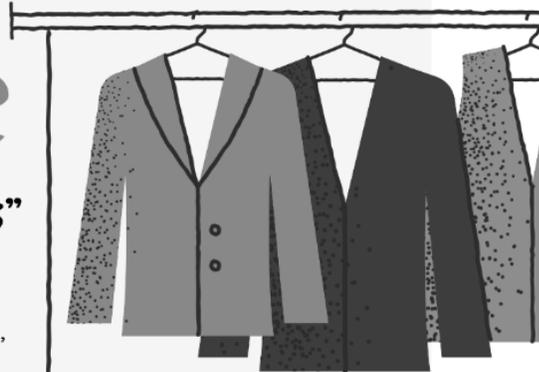
Donations can be dropped off at the church on Friday, January 30th between the hours of 11 am - 2 pm. If the time frame does not work for you, you can drop your donation off at the church office with Stephanie from Tuesday, January 27 to Thursday, January 29th between 9am and 1 pm.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

# One Day Pop-Up Boutique

**"From our closet to yours"**

GOOD QUALITY, GENTLY USED LADIES,  
MENS & CHILDRENS CLOTHING, SHOES,  
BOOTS, HANDBAGS AND ACCESSORIES.  
**EXCELLENT PRICES! \*CASH SALE ONLY\***



ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH  
(AUDITORIUM)  
330 ELIZABETH AVE  
ST. JOHN'S, NL

**January 31, 2026  
11 AM - 3 PM**

**Admission  
\$2**



**St. James United Church St. Patrick's Day Concert:** Featuring Hamilton Sound & Bud Davidge on Sunday, March 15, 2026 from 2:00-3:30pm. Tickets are \$35.00 and can be purchased from the church office Tuesday to Friday between the hours of 8:30AM and 1:30PM. Please contact the church office for your ticket at [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org) or 709-722-1881. Please note that the church office will be closed at 1:30PM.

# St. Patrick's Day Concert

featuring  
*Hamilton Sound*  
& Bud Davidge



**Sunday, March 15, 2026 2:00 pm-3:30 pm**

**St. James United Church**

330 Elizabeth Avenue

Tickets - \$35.00 Call 709.722.1881

Office Hours Tuesdays-Fridays 8:30am to 1:30pm



## GET YOUR TICKETS FOR SHIFT HAPPENS, MUSICAL COMEDY!

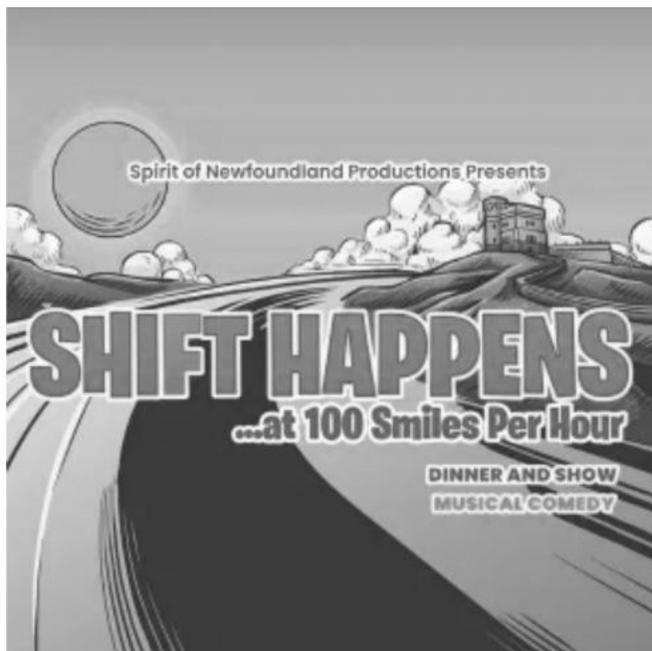
Buckle up for a joyride down memory lane with Spirit of Newfoundland's latest musical comedy, "Shift Happens...at 100 Smiles per Hour"! On February 26, 2026, Gower Theatre doors open at 6:30 p.m.

🍷 Dinner, Show, and Non-Stop Entertainment – All for just \$120 per person! This is your chance to grab your spot for an unforgettable night filled with laughter, community, and music!

Bypass the downtown parking, park at St. James and avail of our taxi service to Gower St UC. Please enquire about our childcare availability. Dietary considerations available upon request. Tax receipts (\$50.00 per ticket) will be issued for the charitable portion of the ticket.

Tickets are selling fast! Get yours today by contacting the St. James church office by phone or email at [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org) or 722-1881. Payment is due at the time of purchase via cheque, e-transfer, or cash.

🎨 Hosted by Gower Street United Church, St. James United Church, and Cowan Heights United Church, proceeds will be shared between the three churches in support of their ministries.



**FEB 26**  
**7:00 PM**

**A THREE-COURSE DINNER THEATRE**  
**GOWER THEATRE, 208 GOWER STREET**  
**TICKETS \$120**  
**PLEASE PURCHASE IN ADVANCE**  
**(709) 722-1881 - INFO@STJAMESUC.ORG**